

Education

Education of the people of the community is important in several ways; one of the more important factors being that it affects the individual and the community earning power. A well-educated person is normally more able to secure employment and earn more money during his working years than a person with little education. Modern industry with its technological improvements is requiring a higher education level than was often the case in the past; thus, it behooves the community to do what it can to encourage better education of its people.

The 1960 census (Figure 3) revealed that both the township area and the county had a higher level of education than that of North Carolina, but not as high as the urban areas of the state. Again, these being median figures indicates that more than half of the population over 25 years old had less than a high school education.

There are indications, however, that the education level is being improved in the years following the 1960 census. As mentioned, the high school enrollment in Maiden has gained 55% over the 1960 enrollment. This gain is much more than is indicated in population gain. Special programs are being used to encourage students to remain until graduation. For example, the ITC Program (Industrial Cooperative Training) is being utilized to allow students to work in local industries in the afternoon after attending classes in the morning. There are about 40 students enrolled in this program during the current school year. Through this program students are permitted to work and help with the family income without having to drop out of school.